

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/18482

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 18/18

US CL : 606/41

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 606/41, 45-50

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X — Y	US 6,283,961 B1 (Underwood et al) 04 September 2001, whole document, Figures 17-31	1,5,6,8-10,15-17,19-25,40
X — Y	US 6,290,699 B1 (Hall et al) 18 September 2001, whole document	2-4,7,11-14,26-39 1-3,5-7,15,16,18,19,25-27
A	US 5,681,282 A (Eggers et al) 28 October 1997, whole document	2-4,7,26-39 1-39

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T"

later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y"

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document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 November 2004 (23.11.2004)

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